

can meet and be directed to tangible and common ends.

This, in addition to what has already been said of the office, while it may be added that to abolish it will in all probability tend to increase confusion, to discourage a large class of citizens, and to create a general depression and belief that the system is uncertain, not understood, changeable, and of doubtful utility.

On the other hand it is not to be denied that the officer may be inefficient and even injurious by his policy; that he may make but little exertion to do good, or may employ his time and great opportunities in doing mischief by seeking his own ends and the advantage of his friends, or by inculcating pernicious doctrines. We have, however, to trust fallible men in many responsible situations; and the best we can do is to throw around them such restraints as the nature of things will permit, and to use every exertion to keep the people, with whom is the heart and conservatism of the country, well informed, and in a situation to form correct opinions of all public matters. All who are opposed to this are enemies of freedom: men can have but one motive for keeping their fellow-beings in ignorance, while they themselves want light. That motive is to gain and to keep undue advantages for themselves at the expense of the multitude: it is the motive which made Nimrod a hunter of men, and which will govern his descendants until that good time when, by God's blessing, men will be able to discern the fowler's snare, and the meek shall inherit the earth.

Till then *every office* and *every officer is a necessary evil*; the mere cost of the office as a general thing is a small matter, in this country, while we have to direct the influence of evil passions in the incumbent, and in the management of the office.

This one may be prostituted and be made a curse: but the cost of it is a matter of no moment whatever, considering the immense interests at stake and the sum expen-